

Message Text

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ACTION EA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-01 INR-05 L-01

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

USIA-06 DRC-01 AID-05 COME-00 EB-04 FRB-01 TRSE-00

XMB-02 OPIC-03 CIEP-01 LAB-01 SIL-01 OMB-01 STR-01

CEA-01 AGR-05 /079 W

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R 250925Z OCT 74

FM AMEMBASSY TOKYO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5550

INFO AMEMBASSY SEOUL

CINCPAC HONOLULU HI

C O N F I D E N T I A L TOKYO 13958

CINCPAC FOR POLAD

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, JA, KS

SUBJ: ROK-JAPAN RELATIONS

SUMMARY: GOJ WILL REBUILD RELATIONSHIP WITH ROK STEP BY STEP, CONCENTRATING ON CONCLUSION AND IMPLEMENTATION OF PRACTICAL TRADE AND AID AGREEMENTS. MINISTERIAL CONFERENCE WILL TAKE PLACE AFTER MUTUAL CONFIDENCE HAS HAD CHANCE TO RECOVER. GOJ HOPES KOREANS WILL DO THEIR PART TO IMPROVE ATMOSPHERE BY MAKING GESTURE ON KIM DAE-JUNG OR OTHER POLITICAL ISSUES. END SUMMARY.

1. IN WIDE-RANGING DISCUSSION OCT 23 ON GOJ APPROACH TO RELATIONS WITH ROK IN AUG 15 INCIDENT, NORTHEAST ASIA DIV DIR SEO MADE FOLLOWING POINTS: A) GENERAL FEELING IN FONOFF IS THAT STRESS SHOULD BE PLACED ON REBUILDING CONFIDENCE BETWEEN ROK AND JAPAN THROUGH STEP-BY-STEP CONCLUSION AND IMPLEMENTATION OF PRACTICAL TRADE AND AID
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AGREEMENTS. MORE DRAMATIC MANIFESTATIONS OF NORMALIZA-

TION SUCH AS MINISTERIAL CONFERENCE, SHOULD WAIT UNTIL MUTUAL CONFIDENCE HAS BEEN REBUILT. B) TRADE CONCLUDED OCT 22 IS GOOD FIRST STEP. THOUGH SUBSTANTIVE NEGOTIATIONS WERE DIFFICULT AND PROTRACTED POLITICAL ATMOSPHERE WAS CONSTRUCTIVE. CHIEF GOJ DELEGATE TAKASHIMA REPORTED THAT THE ROK NEGOTIATORS HANDLED THEMSELVES WITH CAUTION AND RESTRAINT. C) IF TALKS GO AS EXPECTED, NOTES WILL BE EXCHANGED BY OCT 25 ON IMPLEMENTATION OF AGREEMENTS REACHED IN 1972 AND 1973 ON \$100 MILLION WORTH OF LOANS FOR AGRICULTURE PROJECTS. 1972 LOAN IS FOR \$60 MILLION, WHILE 1973 AGREEMENT COVERS LOAN OF MORE THAN \$40 MILLION. THE KOREANS HAVE YET TO MAKE FORMAL APPLICATION FOR NEW AID IN 1974. D) WHILE STEPS OF THIS SORT WILL IMPROVE ATMOSPHERE, GOJ HOPES THAT KOREANS WILL DO THEIR PART BY MAKING SOME GESTURES ON THE POLITICAL ISSUES -- KIM DAE-JUNG, KIM DONG-WOON; OR THE IMPRISONED JAPANESE "STUDENTS" -- THAT IRRITATE ROK-JAPAN RELATIONS. WITHOUT SOME CONCILIATORY MOVE BY SEOUL, THE GOJ WILL HAVE A DIFFICULT TIME TACKLING KNOTTY UPCOMING PROBLEMS SUCH AS SECURING APPROVAL OF CONTINENTAL SHELF AGREEMENT BY BOTH LDP AND DIET. E) FOREIGN OFFICE DOES NOT BELIEVE THAT KIM DAE-JUNG CASE AND AUG 15 INCIDENT CANCEL EACH OTHER OUT. THOUGH THEY EXPECT ROK TO RAISE ISSUE OF JAPANESE CONTROL OVER CHOSOREN EVERY TIME KIM RELEASE IS BROUGHT UP, FONOFF FEELS OBLIGATED TO CONTINUE RAISING QUESTION UNTIL SATISFACTORY RESOLUTION ACHIEVED.

HODGSON

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